

September 7, 1967

Dr. James Goddard
Food and Drug Administration
200 C Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Dr. Goddard:

Sometime ago we discussed the desirability of a civilian advisory group that might help play some part in long range planning of your agency's activities. I do not know whether this will fill the bill but I think it might be worth your time to investigate such a role for a group that Dr. Alexander Hollaender is trying to put together. You probably know Dr. Hollaender but just in case your paths have not crossed I should identify him as having been for many years the Director of the Biology Division at Oak Ridge National Laboratories. There is broad agreement that he did a remarkable job in bringing together a diverse and talented group of investigators and in providing a first class atmosphere for them to work over a period of many years. One of his most creative contributions was in understanding clearly how to meet the implied obligations of responding to the mission of the laboratory with respect to atomic energy effects and at the same time to make it possible to continue a first class research program on a broad front.

Dr. Hollaender has recently retired from the position as director but is still an extremely active and aggressive personality with many contacts and very broad interests. He has left with me a copy of an explanatory document with which I am not altogether in sympathy, especially at its somewhat arrogant tone but it will at least explain some of the things he would like to see done. I think it is a public relation blurb and that it was not intended to be read by knowledgeable people. I have advised him to prepare another version of it but will not delay matters by waiting for that to appear.

My writing you comes at my own suggestion after having discussed this project with Dr. Hollaender. Unless you actively discourage me from attempting to interest you any further in it he will write you directly in a few weeks to ask for an appointment.

Yours sincerely,

JL:bm

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

bcc: Dr. Alexander Hollaender

GODDARD